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Does functional diversity increase resilience to more extreme fire regimes in a subalpine forest?

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Functional diversity is often expected to increase ecological resilience to extreme events, but this idea is poorly tested. We used an individual-based model for a 50 km² conifer forest in the Northern Rocky Mountains, with parameter values and initial conditions based on empirical data. We simulated responses to projected changes in extreme fire events through the 21st century, factorially crossed with manipulations of functional diversity. Preliminary results suggest that functional diversity alone does not increase resilience; other factors, such as spatial heterogeneity, may be more important for avoiding lasting transitions from forest to steppe.